

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions,
and listings, of claims in the application:

1 Claim 1 (currently amended): A post-product-receipt
2 product specifications modifying method comprising:
3 accepting, from an information preparing step for a
4 buyer who has received the product, to prepare
5 specifications modifying information for use in modifying
6 the specifications of a product on the basis of an
7 information preparation preparing program, including
8 computer executable instructions and embedded on a
9 tangible medium, made available to the buyer by buying
10 the product and adapted to modify the specifications so
11 as to satisfy his or her demand; and
12 a specifications modifying step for modifying the
13 specifications of the product on the basis of said
14 specifications modifying information accepted from the
15 buyer prepared in said information preparing step.

1 Claim 2 (currently amended): The product specifications
2 modifying method of claim 1 further comprising:
3 a transmission step for transmitting said
4 specifications modifying information prepared in said
5 information preparing step from the buyer to the a
6 supplier of the product by way of a telecommunication
7 line,
8 wherein the specifications modifying step ~~for~~ is
9 performed by the supplier.

1 Claim 3 (currently amended): The product specifications
2 modifying method of claim 1 2 further comprising:

3 ~~an information recording step for~~ recording said
4 specifications modifying information on a predetermined
5 recording medium~~;~~ and
6 ~~wherein the specifications are transmitted by~~
7 sending said recording medium storing said specifications
8 modifying information from the buyer to ~~the~~ a supplier of
9 the product,
10 wherein the specifications modifying step for is
11 performed by the supplier.

1 Claim 4 (currently amended): The product specifications
2 modifying method according to claim 1 further comprising:
3 ~~2, wherein said information preparation program includes~~
4 ~~a program for evaluating an~~ the expense associated with
5 ~~incurred by~~ the specified modification to the product.

1 Claim 5 (currently amended): The product specifications
2 modifying method according to claim 2, wherein said
3 product is camera~~,~~ and
4 wherein said specifications modifying information
5 include at least one of ~~the~~ information specifying the
6 painting and the printing of the outer surface of the
7 camera, information specifying the modification to be
8 made to the profile of the camera and~~/or~~ information
9 specifying the modification to be made to ~~the camera~~ an
10 operation control program of the camera.

Claims 6-13 (canceled)

1 Claim 14 (new): A camera system comprising:
2 a camera; and

3 a machine-readable storage distributed with the
4 camera, having stored thereon a computer program
5 executable by a machine, for causing the machine to
6 perform the steps of
7 setting customization information regarding an
8 external appearance of the camera;
9 calculating an expense for customization of the
10 external appearance of the camera based on customization
11 information; and
12 recording the customization information on a storage
13 medium.

1 Claim 15 (new): An apparatus for generating information
2 for instructing a manufacturer to customize a camera
3 previously purchased or received by a customer, the
4 apparatus comprising:
5 appearance displaying means for displaying a view of
6 an external appearance of the camera;
7 item displaying means for displaying a plurality of
8 items with respect to which the external appearance of
9 the camera is allowed to be customized;
10 selecting means for selecting at least desired one
11 of the plurality of items;
12 information generating means for generating
13 customization information based on the desired one of the
14 plurality of items which is selected by the selecting
15 means;
16 controlling means for causing the appearance
17 displaying means to change the view of the external
18 appearance of the camera based on the customization
19 information generated by the information generating

20 means, and to display the changed view of the external
21 appearance of the camera;
22 customization expense estimating means for
23 calculating and displaying an expense for customization
24 of the external appearance of the camera based on the
25 customization information generated by the information
26 generating means; and
27 recording means for recording the expense for
28 customization of the external appearance of the camera on
29 a storage medium.

1 Claim 16 (new): The apparatus according to claim 15,
2 wherein the selecting means is allowed to select a number
3 of desired items from among the plurality of items.

1 Claim 17 (new): An apparatus for generating information
2 for instructing a manufacturer to customize a camera
3 previously purchased or received by a customer,
4 comprising:
5 displaying means;
6 inputting means; and
7 recording means for recording customization
8 information on a recording medium which allows data to be
9 read therefrom by the apparatus, and on which a program
10 is recorded, the program being provided along with the
11 camera to the customer, and enabling the apparatus to
12 carry out the steps of: a) causing the displaying means
13 to display a view of an external appearance of the camera
14 purchased by the customer; b) causing the displaying
15 means to display a plurality of items with respect to
16 which the external appearance of the camera is allowed to
17 be customized; c) selecting at least desired one of the

18 plurality of items in accordance with inputting by the
19 inputting means; d) generating the customization
20 information based on the selected one of the plurality of
21 items; e) causing the displaying means to change the view
22 of the external appearance of the camera based on the
23 customization information, and to display the changed
24 view of the external appearance of the camera; and f)
25 causing calculating and displaying an expense for
26 customization of the external appearance of the camera
27 based on the customization information; and
28 recording means for recording the expense for
29 customization of the external appearance of the camera on
30 a storage medium.

1 Claim 18 (new): The apparatus according to claim 17,
2 wherein in the selecting step, a number of desired items
3 are allowed to be selected from among the plurality of
4 items.